



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 499

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 5617

House of Representatives, April 15, 2013

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10a-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 There shall continue to be a Board of Trustees for The University of
4 Connecticut to consist of twenty-one persons, twelve to be appointed
5 by the Governor, who shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and
6 ethnic diversity; two to be elected by the university alumni; two to be
7 elected by the students enrolled at the institutions under the
8 jurisdiction of said board; and five members ex officio. On or before
9 July 1, 1983, the Governor shall appoint members to the board as
10 follows: Four members for a term of two years from said date; four
11 members for a term of four years from said date; and four members for
12 a term of six years from said date. Thereafter, the Governor shall
13 appoint trustees of said university to succeed those appointees whose

14 terms expire, and each trustee so appointed shall hold office for a
15 period of six years from the first day of July in the year of his or her
16 appointment, provided two of the trustees appointed for terms
17 commencing July 1, 1995, and their successors shall be alumni of the
18 university, one of the trustees appointed for a term commencing July 1,
19 1997, and his or her successors shall be such alumni and one of the
20 members appointed for a term commencing July 1, 1999, and his or her
21 successors shall be such alumni. The Commissioner of Agriculture, the
22 Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Economic and
23 Community Development and the chairperson of The University of
24 Connecticut Health Center Board of Directors shall be, ex officio,
25 members of the board of trustees. The Governor shall be, ex officio,
26 president of said board. The graduates of all of the schools and
27 colleges of said university shall, prior to September first in the odd-
28 numbered years, elect one trustee, who shall be a graduate of the
29 institution and who shall hold office for four years from the first day of
30 September succeeding his or her election. Not less than two or more
31 than four nominations for each such election shall be made by the
32 alumni association of said university, provided no person who has
33 served as an alumni trustee for the two full consecutive terms
34 immediately prior to the term for which such election is to be held
35 shall be nominated for any such election. Such election shall be
36 conducted by mail prior to September first under the supervision of a
37 canvassing board consisting of three members, one appointed by the
38 board of trustees, one by the board of directors of the alumni
39 association of the university and one by the president of the university.
40 No ballot in such election shall be opened until the date by which
41 ballots must be returned to the canvassing board. In such election, all
42 graduates shall be entitled to vote by signed ballots which have been
43 circulated to them by mail and which shall be returned by mail.
44 Vacancies occurring by death or resignation of either of such alumni
45 trustees shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by special
46 election, if such unexpired term is for more than eighteen months.
47 When the unexpired term is eighteen months or less, such vacancy
48 shall be filled by appointment by the board of directors of said alumni

49 association. On or before November 1, 1975, the students of The
 50 University of Connecticut shall, in such manner as the board of
 51 trustees of said university shall determine, elect two trustees, each of
 52 whom shall be enrolled as a full-time student of said university at the
 53 time of his or her election. One such member shall be elected for a term
 54 of one year from November 1, 1975, and one for a term of two years
 55 from said date. Prior to July first, annually, such students shall, in
 56 accordance with this section and in such manner as the board shall
 57 determine, elect one member of said board, who shall be so enrolled at
 58 said university at the time of his or her election and who shall serve for
 59 a term of two years from July first in the year of his or her election. The
 60 student member elected to fill the term expiring on June 30, 2003, and
 61 such elected member's successors, shall be enrolled as a full-time
 62 undergraduate [students] student at a school or college of the
 63 university and shall be elected by the undergraduate students of the
 64 schools and colleges of the university. The student member elected to
 65 fill the term expiring on June 30, 2004, and such elected member's
 66 successors, shall be enrolled as a full-time student in the School of
 67 Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry, the School of
 68 Social Work, or as a graduate student of a school or college of the
 69 university, and shall be elected by the students of the School of Law,
 70 the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry, the School of Social
 71 Work and the graduate students of the schools and colleges of the
 72 university. Any student member elected after July 1, 2013, shall be
 73 enrolled as a full-time student at the time of his or her election and for
 74 the duration of his or her term of service. Any vacancies in the elected
 75 membership of said board shall, except as otherwise provided in this
 76 section, be filled by special election for the balance of the unexpired
 77 term.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2013	10a-103
-----------	--------------	---------

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact to the University of Connecticut in making students ineligible to fill either of the student representative seats on the university's Board of Trustees unless they remain enrolled full-time throughout their two-year terms as such a change is procedural in nature.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5617*****AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill makes UConn students ineligible to fill either of the student representative seats on the university's Board of Trustees unless they remain enrolled full-time throughout their two-year terms. Currently, student board members may shift to part-time status or graduate before their terms expire, so long as they were enrolled full-time when they were elected. The change applies to students elected after July 1, 2013.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

BACKGROUND***Seat Distribution on the Board of Trustees***

By law, UConn's 21-member Board of Trustees must have two student members, one undergraduate and one graduate, who are elected by their respective student bodies. The remaining membership consists of 12 gubernatorial appointees, two elected alumni representatives, and five ex-officio members (commissioners of agriculture, education, and economic and community development; UConn Health Center chairperson; and governor).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/26/2013)